

LEVI TODD

DRAWER 2

TODD RELATIVES

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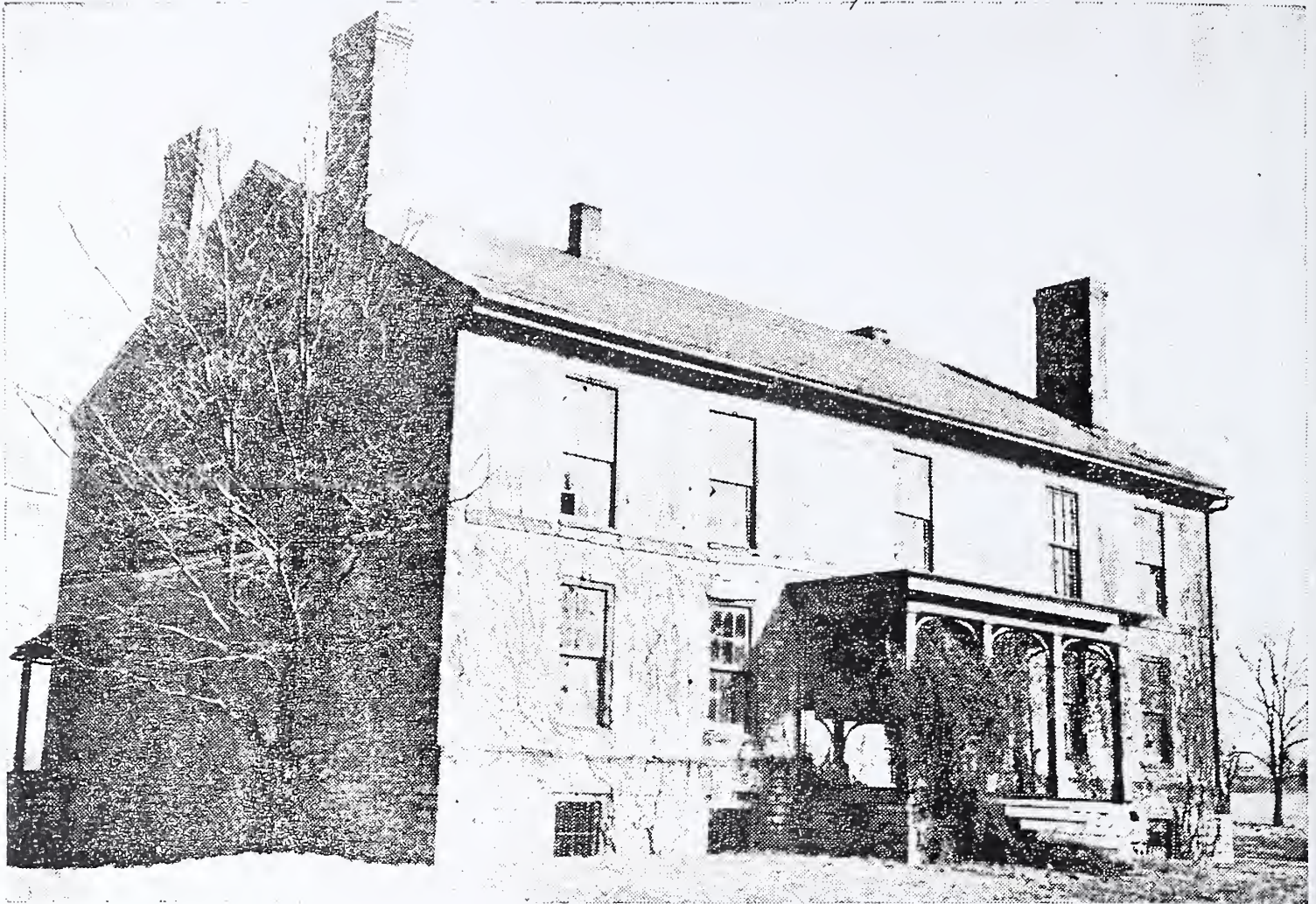
Todd Family

Levi Todd

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

2/13/38



—(C.-J. Photo by Joe Reister.

Not far from Lexington, on the Richmond Rd., is "Ellerslie," the home of Levi Todd, early Kentucky pioneer and one of a party of hunters who in 1775 named the town of Lexington. Todd was the first clerk of Fayette County, a major general in the Kentucky militia, a trustee of Transylvania University and the grandfather of Mary Todd Lincoln, wife of the immortal Abraham.

211. (LINCOLN). CLARK, GEORGE ROGERS. Brig. Gen. in Revolution, Explorer, distinguished Indian Fighter. D. S. Double folio, paper. Nov. fifth, 1788, being his and the other commissioners agreement with LEVI TODD, re his share in the 193,000 acres tract granted the ILLINOIS REGIMENT by Virginia on the North West Side of the River Ohio. Also signed by William Clark, James F Moore, Alex. Breckenridge, Andrew Heth, William Croghan, Richard Ferrell and others. As each man set his red wax seal opposite his signature, very picturesque looking document. Very rare. 97.50.

Referring to the original act (quoted) and a subsequent act also quoted, location of the land given, speaks about a town to be founded. Levi Todd grandfather of Mrs. Abraham Lincoln was her "ancestor who fought in the revolution".
American Antiquarian Nov. 1940
 219 MEMORANDUM Major Gen. in Revolution.

177. TODD, LEVI. Meritorious officer in the revolution, colonizer. Ancestor of Mrs. Abraham Lincoln. A. D. S. folio, June 11th, 1801. 55.00.

Referring to an agreement made in 1780 with Martin Hawkins for whom he located a land claim of 2000 acres and was to receive 1/3 of this land for his trouble. He now authorizes the possessor of this title to make over to Samuel Johnson his share of the land. Very interesting. Anything autographic of LEVI TODD is very rare.

----- Add. to Gen. Washing-

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ABRAHAM LINCOLN

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An observance of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commemoration,
February 2008-February 2010.



ELLETSLIE, Fayette County, Kentucky, home of General Levi Todd.
Robert Stuart and Hannah Todd probably married here in 1802.

Levi Todd
(1756-1807)

Mary Todd Lincoln's grandfather, Levi Todd, was an early Kentucky pioneer, Revolutionary War veteran, and a founder of Lexington.

Born in Pennsylvania in 1756, Todd studied law in Virginia and became a surveyor. In 1775, he moved to Kentucky with his two brothers, John and Robert, and settled at Fort Harrod (Harrodsburg) and St. Asaph's (Stanford). As lawyers were rare on the frontier, in 1777 Levi became the first clerk of Kentucky County (then part of Virginia). Two years later, he established Todd's Station near Lexington and married Jane Briggs. Threatened by Indian attacks, he moved to Lexington, which he had helped establish. He was one of the first landowners, an original town trustee, and the first clerk of the Fayette County Court.

In the Revolutionary War Todd was a lieutenant under George Rogers Clark, fighting at Kaskaskia, Vincennes, and against Native Americans in the Northwest Territory. He was one of the few officers to survive the battle of Blue Licks on August 18, 1782. His brother John, who led the Kentucky troops, was killed. Levi later buried the dead and wrote his brother Robert that the corpses "were all stript naked, scalped & mangled . . . it was hard to know one from another. Our Brother was not known." He later succeeded Daniel Boone as commander of the Kentucky militia and was promoted to major general.

Todd was a delegate to the Kentucky statehood conventions of 1785 and 1787. He also supported education, serving as a trustee to Transylvania University. Levi and Jane's seventh child was Robert Smith Todd, the father of Mary Todd Lincoln.

Levi Todd home
Kentucky Historical Society Collections

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